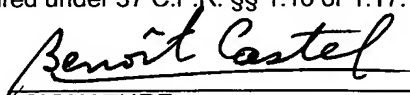


TRANSMITTAL LETTER TO THE UNITED STATES DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US) CONCERNING A FILING UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371		Attorney Docket No. 0513-1109
		U.S. Application No. 107501400
INTERNATIONAL APPLN. NO. PCT/FR03/00096	INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE January 14, 2003	PRIORITY DATE CLAIMED January 18, 2002
TITLE OF INVENTION: MEANS FOR CONNECTING TWO PIPE ELEMENTS END-TO-END		
APPLICANT(S) FOR DO/EO/US: Patrick LEGEAL and Olivier GUIVAR'CH		
Applicant herewith submits to the United States Designated Elected Office (DO/EO/US) the following items and other information:		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This is a FIRST submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371. 2. <input type="checkbox"/> This is a SECOND or SUBSEQUENT submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371. 3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This is an express request to begin national examination procedures (35 U.S.C. 371(f)). The submission must include items (5), (6), (9) and (21) indicated below. 4. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The US has been elected (Article 31). 5. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A copy of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(2)) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> is attached hereto (required only if not communicated by the International Bureau). b. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> has been communicated by the International Bureau. See attached PCT/IB/308. c. <input type="checkbox"/> is not required, as the application was filed in the United States Receiving Office (RO/US). 6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An English language translation of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(2)) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> is attached hereto. b. <input type="checkbox"/> has been previously submitted under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4). 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Amendments to the claims of the International Application under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(3)) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. <input type="checkbox"/> are attached hereto (required only if not communicated by the International Bureau). b. <input type="checkbox"/> have been communicated by the International Bureau. c. <input type="checkbox"/> have not been made, however, the time limit for making such amendments has NOT expired. d. <input type="checkbox"/> have not been made and will not be made. 8. <input type="checkbox"/> An English language translation of the amendments to the claims under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(3)). 9. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An oath or declaration of the inventor(s) (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(4)) or a Declaration of Inventorship for purposes of U.S.A. designation pursuant to rule 4.17(iv). 10. <input type="checkbox"/> An English language translation of the annexes of the International Preliminary Examination Report under PCT Article 36 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(5)). 		
Items 11 to 20 below concern document(s) or information included:		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 11. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) w/PTO-1449 - <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Copy of IDS citations. 12. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers (cover sheet & document(s)). 13. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A preliminary amendment. 14. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An Application Data Sheet under 37 C.F.R. 1.76. 15. <input type="checkbox"/> A substitute specification. 16. <input type="checkbox"/> A change of power of attorney and/or change of address letter. 17. <input type="checkbox"/> A computer-readable form of the sequence listing in accordance with PCT Rule 13ter.2 and 37 CFR 1.821 - 1.825. 18. <input type="checkbox"/> A second copy of the published international application under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4). 19. <input type="checkbox"/> A second copy of the English language translation of the international application (35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4)). 20. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other items or information: <u>International Search Report (PCT/ISA/210)</u> 		

U.S. APPLICATION NO. 10/501 400		INTERNATIONAL APPLN. NO. PCT/FR03/00096		ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 0513-1109	
21. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The following fees are submitted: BASIC NATIONAL FEE (37 CFR 1.492 (a) (1)-(5)): Neither international preliminary examination fee nor international search fee paid to USPTO and international Search Report not prepared by the EPO or JPO \$1080.00 International preliminary examination fee not paid to USPTO but International Search Report prepared by the EPO or JPO \$920.00 International preliminary examination fee not paid to USPTO but International search fee paid to USPTO \$770.00 International preliminary examination fee paid to USPTO but all claims did not satisfy provision of PCT Article 33 (1)-(4) \$730.00 International preliminary examination fee paid to USPTO and all claims satisfied provision of PCT Article 33 (1)-(4) \$100.00 ENTER APPROPRIATE BASIC FEE AMOUNT				CALCULATIONS PTO USE ONLY	
Surcharge of \$130.00 for furnishing the oath or declaration later than <input type="checkbox"/> 20- <input type="checkbox"/> 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(e))				\$	
CLAIMS	NUMBER FILED	NUMBER EXTRA	RATE	\$	
Total Claims	12 - 20 =	0	x \$18.00	\$	
Independent Claims	1 - 3 =	0	x \$86.00	\$	
MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM(S) (if applicable)			+ \$290.00	\$	
TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATION =				\$ 920.00	
<input type="checkbox"/> Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27. The fees indicated above are reduced by 1/2.				\$	
SUBTOTAL =				\$ 920.00	
Processing fee of \$130.00 for furnishing the English translation later than <input type="checkbox"/> 20 <input type="checkbox"/> 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(f)).				\$	
TOTAL NATIONAL FEE =				\$ 920.00	
Fee for recording the enclosed assignment (37 CFR 1.21(h)). The assignment must be accompanied by an appropriate cover sheet (37 CFR 3.28, 3.31) \$40.00 per property +				\$ 40.00	
TOTAL FEES ENCLOSED =				\$ 960.00	
				Amount to be refunded:	\$
				Charged:	\$
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A check in the amount of \$960.00 to cover the above fees is attached. <input type="checkbox"/> The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge indicated fees and credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 in the name of Young & Thompson. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional fee required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17.					
SEND ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO: YOUNG & THOMPSON 745 South 23 rd Street Arlington, VA 22202 Telephone (703) 521-2297 Y&T Customer No. 00466 BC/lmt			 SIGNATURE Benoit Castel, Reg. No. 35,041 NAME, REGISTRATION NUMBER July 15, 2004 DATE		